

# Worksession

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	6
<b>Meeting Date</b>	October 29, 2007
<b>Prepared By</b>	Ronald Ricucci Chief of Police
<b>Reviewed By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Update on Proposed Installation of Speed Cameras
<b>Background</b>	<p>On March 12, 2007, Montgomery County launched the <i>Safe Speed</i> program, Maryland's first automated speed enforcement. The County was granted the authority to operate the cameras by the State of Maryland in 2006 as a pilot automated speed enforcement program in residential areas and school zones with speed limits of 35 mph or less. The municipalities of Chevy Chase Village, the City of Gaithersburg, and the City of Rockville have implemented speed enforcement programs under the same law.</p> <p>The goal of the Safe Speed program is to reduce speeding on residential streets and streets near schools in an effort to prevent injuries and fatalities among pedestrians and motorists. The cameras are an additional tool available to police in speed enforcement. By law, revenues from speed camera fines must be used for public safety programs and improving pedestrian safety.</p> <p>Traffic surveys are conducted to determine which locations are in most need of speed reduction efforts. The streets chosen must meet the standards set by the State of Maryland. Camera locations are posted on the jurisdiction's web site prior to the cameras becoming operational.</p> <p>On April 9, 2007, the City Council held a worksession to discuss the speed camera program. The Council authorized the Police Department to proceed with the necessary traffic surveys to determine whether or not speed cameras should be installed in the City of Takoma Park.</p> <p>The Police Department subsequently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with ACS State and Local Solutions, the contractor for Montgomery County, the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg, and the Village of Chevy Chase. The traffic surveys were conducted at no cost to the City. ACS State and Local Solutions conducted during the months of August and October. The traffic survey results are included as part of this agenda packet.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	Council approval would be required to enter into a contract for speed enforcement services.

<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	<p>The FY08 budget does not reflect any costs associated with the implementation of an automated speed enforcement program. Should the Council wish to proceed with one, the budget will need to be amended accordingly.</p> <p>Operational costs would depend on the type and number of cameras. Based on the results of the traffic surveys conducted by ACS State and Local Solutions, it is unlikely that revenues received from speed camera fines would be sufficient to cover all operational costs.</p>
<b>Attachments</b>	Results of traffic surveys conducted by ACS State and Local Solutions
<b>Recommendation</b>	The traffic survey results do not reflect a speeding violation percentage that would warrant the installation of speed cameras at this time. Staff does not recommend that the City proceed with the implementation of an automated speed enforcement program. The City should continue to focus on the installation of traffic calming measures and speed enforcement.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	

Chief Ricucci,

Here are the stats for the school on Maple Ave EB.

Time - 7am – 9:30am

Total Vehicles – 1035

Violations – 11 (At 11 over the posted)

Avg speed – 21.5MPH

85<sup>th</sup> Percentile – 27MPH

High Speed – 42mph

% of violators – 1%

Thanks,

Todd

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# Takoma Park, MD Speed Surveys

Street	Block	Build able FIP Site	Surveyed 7-9 AM			Surveyed 3-5 PM			Comments
			Passes	Violations	% Viol	Passes	Violations	% Viol	
1 Carrel Ave	7200	Usable Both sides							
2	7400	Usable Both sides							
3	7500	Usable Both sides							
4	7600	Usable Both sides							
5 Philadelphia Ave	100	Not Usable							Road is too short
6	200	Usable Both sides							
7	300	Usable Both sides							
8	500	Usable Both sides							
9 Piney Branch Rd	7100	No 7100 BLK							I could not find this block. I will check again.
10	7300	Usable Both sides							
11 New Hampshire Ave	7300	Usable Both sides							
12	7400	Usable Both sides							
13 University Blvd	1000	Usable Both sides							
14 Flower Ave	8200	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side.
15	8300	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side.
16	8400	Usable Both sides							
17	8500	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side.
18 Takoma Ave Near Buffalo		Usable Both sides							
19 Ethan Allen	400	Usable Both sides							
20	500	Usable Both sides							
21	600	Usable Both sides							
22 Maple Ave	7500								I will be checking this site today.

- Instructions
- 1 Evaluate the Constructability of Each location. If there is no place to build a fixed pole at that hundred block, do not survey.
  - 2 Once the build able sites have been identified, start surveying them with can cams at the two time slots.
  - 3 Set the Radar system for approaching and receding mode to monitor both directions of traffic. Unplug the flash and set the speed to 11 over the limit.
  - 4 Record the total vehicle count, total violations, and % of violations at each locations.
  - 5 Download the statistics file after each survey and save it as MMDDYYYY-Location Address (example 07302007-7500 Maple)

# Takoma Park, MD Speed Surveys

Street	Block	Build able FIP Site	Surveyed 7-9 AM			Surveyed 3-5 PM			Comments
			Passes	Violations	% Viol	Passes	Violations	% Viol	
1 Carroll Ave NB	7200	Usable Both sides				995	94		Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
Carroll Ave SB	7200					972	43		Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
2	7400	Usable Both sides							
3	7500	Usable Both sides							
4	7600	Usable Both sides							
5 Philadelphia Ave	100	Not Usable							Road is too short
6 Philadelphia Ave	200	Usable Both sides							Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
7 Philadelphia Ave EB	300	Usable Both sides	1149	16					Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
8 Philadelphia Ave WB	500	Usable Both sides	1336	18					Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
9 Piney Branch Rd SB	7100	No 7100 BLK							Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
Piney Branch Rd NB	7100								Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
10 Piney Branch Rd SB	7300	Usable Both sides	1580	15					Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
11 New Hampshire Ave	7300	Usable Both sides							
New Hampshire Ave NB	7400	Usable Both sides				1817	99		
12 New Hampshire Ave SB	7400	Usable Both sides				3211	266		
University Blvd Wb	1000		1864	38					
13 University Blvd Eb	1000	Usable Both sides	2154	99					
14 Flower Ave	8200	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side. Flash may need timer.
15 Flower Ave	8300	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side. Flash may need timer.
16 Flower Ave	8400	South side only							
17 Flower Ave	8500	South side only							There is not enough space for a Fix pole on the North side. Flash may need timer.
Takoma Ave Near Buffalo	NB	Usable Both sides	1492	38					Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
18 Takoma Ave Near Buffalo	SB	Usable Both sides	1305	34					Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
19 Ethan Allen	400	Usable Both sides							Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
20	500	Usable Both sides							Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
21	600	Usable Both sides							Residential neighborhood flashes may need timers
Maple Ave EB	7500					385	8		
22 Maple Ave WB	7500					807	2		I will be checking this site today.

## Instructions

- 1 Evaluate the Constructability of Each location. If there is no place to build a fixed pole at that hundred block, do not survey.
- 2 Once the build able sites have been identified, start surveying them with can cams at the two time slots.
- 3 Set the Radar system for approaching and receding mode to monitor both directions of traffic. Unplug the flash and set the speed to 11 over the limit.
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